

## Press Release

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

For information contact: Amy Mullerleile  
amullerleile@kelso.gov  
(360) 577-3301



*Kelso, WA – December 11, 2015*

### **Kelso City Council Vacancy**

The City of Kelso has announced the vacancy of Council Position No. 3, held by Mr. Jared Franklin, in accordance with Section 2.06 of the City Charter. The charter states that a vacancy occurs in the event a councilmember fails to attend six scheduled regular and/or special meetings of the Council during a calendar year unless on authorized City-related business. Councilmember Franklin's absence from the December 8, 2015 special meeting was his sixth of the year, and in accordance with the charter, the vacancy occurred at the close of the meeting.

The City Council will discuss options for filling the vacancy at its December 15th regular meeting. The Council has sixty (60) days upon the occurrence of the vacancy to appoint a qualified person to fill the remainder of the unexpired term. Position No. 3 represents the West Kelso council district.

Section 2.06 of the Kelso City Charter is included below:

#### **2.06 Vacancies; Forfeiture of Office; Filing of Vacancies.**

(a) Vacancies. The office of a council member shall become vacant upon the member's death, resignation, removal from office or forfeiture of office in any manner authorized by law; in addition, the office of a council member shall also become vacant if any council member fails to attend six scheduled regular and/or special meetings of the council during a calendar year unless on authorized City-related business, which shall be approved by a majority of the council. In the event that a duly elected council member elected by a district no longer resides within that respective district, said council member may serve as a council member until the next election, at which time the position shall be deemed vacant.

(b) Forfeiture of Office. A council member shall forfeit that office if the council member:

- (1) Lacks at any time during the term of office any qualification for the office prescribed by this charter or by law; or
- (2) Violates any express prohibition of this charter; or
- (3) Is convicted of a crime involving moral turpitude; or
- (4) Discloses matters discussed in any executive session, unless authorized by a majority vote of the council.

(c) Filling of Vacancies. A vacancy in the city council shall be filled for the remainder of the unexpired term, if any, at the next regular election following not less than 60 days upon the occurrence of the vacancy, but the council by a majority vote of all its remaining members shall appoint a qualified person to fill the vacancy until the person elected to serve the remainder of the unexpired term takes office. The council may appoint a council member not residing in the district from which a council member

position elected by a district is vacated, provided that no other qualified candidate from said district seeks appointment

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